



CITY OF
TUCSON



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NEWS RELEASE

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SUSPICIOUS DEATH INVESTIGATION 1240 WEST AJO WAY

*****UPDATE – FEBRUARY 3, 2012*****

The female victim associated with this incident has been identified as **47-year old Tucson resident Carmelita Aguilar**. Further, she was identified as the **mother of Christopher Aguilar**, who was previously arrested in connection with this case. The investigation continues to determine the exact circumstances surrounding her death. Further information will be released once it becomes available.

Sergeant Maria Hawke – February 3, 2012

*****UPDATE – FEBRUARY 1, 2012*****

Homicide Unit detectives have arrested **25-year old Christopher Aguilar**, of Tucson, in connection with this investigation. Aguilar was charged with **one count of Abandonment/Concealment of a Body**, a felony, and booked into the Pima County Adult Detention Center.

Detectives have determined that Aguilar lived in the apartment with an adult female relative. He was aware that a person was deceased inside the apartment, and concealed the death for some time while continuing to live in the apartment. Detectives have confirmed that the body found inside is that of a female, however, due to the advanced state of decomposition, positive identification of the victim is still pending, as is notification of next of kin. While there is no indication that the deceased person is someone other than Aguilar's relative, this cannot be confirmed at this time. An autopsy is will be performed to determine cause of death.

Detectives have determined that the victim was most likely murdered and did not die of natural causes, and the death is being investigated as a homicide. Aguilar has not been charged in connection with the murder.

This investigation is ongoing and anyone with information about this case is urged to call **911** or **88-CRIME**.

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipació.

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Christopher Aguilar

Sgt. Matt Ronstadt – February 1, 2012

At approximately 5:30 p.m. on January 31, 2012, the Tucson Police Department received a 911 call requesting a welfare check at an apartment at 1240 West Ajo Way. The anonymous caller indicated that they had not seen the adult female resident in approximately a month, and that there was a foul odor coming from the apartment. Officers from Operations Division South responded to the complex and made entry into the apartment. Inside officers discovered a body in an advanced state of decomposition. Officers noticed suspicious indicators that led them to believe that the victim had possibly not died of natural causes. The gender and age of the victim was not immediately apparent. Next of kin have not been notified.

Due to the circumstances, detectives from the Night Detectives Detail and the Homicide Unit responded to continue the investigation at the scene. Detectives began interviewing potential witnesses at the complex and examined the scene, searching for items of evidentiary value in an effort to determine what had occurred. Detectives located and detained a possible person of interest for further investigation. That person has not been charged at this time, and their connection to the death, if any, has not yet been established.

The investigation is ongoing.

The Tucson Police Department urges anyone with information about the resident at this apartment or about this incident to contact **911** or **88-CRIME**.

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